

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

KRIWET ET AL.

APPLICATION NO:

FILED:

FOR: TOPICAL COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING ASCOMYCINS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification as follows:

Under the Title, please insert

-- This is a continuation of International Application No. PCT/EP99/09351, filed December 1, 1999, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference. --

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-13 and add the following new claims:

14. (new) A composition for topical administration of an ascomycin for treatment of skin disorders which composition comprises a carrier vehicle comprising

- (i) means to retain water in the outer skin layer comprising a urea, an inorganic salt, or a carboxylic acid, and
- (ii) means to hinder water evaporating from the skin.

15. (new) A composition for topical administration of 33-epi-chloro-33-desoxy-ascomycin which composition comprises a carrier vehicle comprising

- (i) means to retain water in the outer skin layer, and